



Foreign Affairs Manual

15 FAM – Overseas Buildings Operations

Change Transmittal: OBO-5

Date: March 21, 2006

15 FAM 600

MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF REAL PROPERTY ABROAD

Changes

1. **15 FAM 610, Authority, Scope, and Policy:** This subchapter has minor revisions.
2. **15 FAM 620, Definitions:** This subchapter has been revised throughout.
3. **15 FAM 630, Maintenance, Repair, and Custodial Responsibilities:** This subchapter has been revised throughout. Issues of particular interest include the addition of chief of mission (COM) responsibility for ensuring that all properties occupied by employees serving under the COM are free of hazardous conditions that could affect the health or safety of people; clarification of U.S. Government and occupant responsibilities for grounds maintenance and funding; relocation from this subchapter of funding responsibilities for physical security upgrades for GO/LTL/STL properties into 15 FAM 165; and relocation into this subchapter of information related to air conditioners, emergency generators, uninterruptible power systems, etc. (not new text), previously contained in 15 FAM 700.
4. **15 FAM 640, Approvals Required for Repairs and Improvements:** Guidance on project categorization, review (technical and design), approval, permit issuance, and as-built drawings for special maintenance and improvement (M&I) projects have been added. This subchapter also covers emergency generator and uninterruptible power system (UPS) approval requirements (not new text) previously contained in 15 FAM 700.
5. **15 FAM 650, Funding Guidelines:** Revised limitations on routine maintenance and repair (M&R) funding levels for use on special

maintenance and improvement (M&I) projects have been added to reflect current levels.

6. **15 FAM 660, Elevator Safety Inspection and Test Requirements:** This subchapter has minor revisions.
7. **Change transmittal** has replaced the term, transmittal letter. Change transmittal was selected as being more appropriate in this age of electronic information transmission.
8. Revisions since the last update appear in *italic* and *dark magenta*. Other than formal titles, the italic and dark magenta will be removed the next time the material is updated. Only current changes will appear in italic and dark magenta. Italic and dark magenta provide an historical record of changes.
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